

DATE: November 23, 2021
TIME: 2:28 PM

MEETING MINUTES
Belmont Conservation Commission
August 31, 2021 Meeting Minutes
7:00 pm

Attendees:

Members: Jim Roth (Chairman) Jeff North (Vice Chair); Margaret Velie; Miriam Weil; Christopher Morris; Dan Nolan; Mark Smith (Associate)

Others: Kyle Cormier; Paul McDonald; Marcia Velencia; Al Gala; Flavio Sutti; Sandy Vorce; Leonard Katz; Ilia Gavish; Inge Daniels; Matt Geneze; Greg White; Radha Iyengar; Peter Struzziero

Call to Order:

The Meeting was Called to Order at 7:05 pm by Chairman Jim Roth.

Review of Minutes: The Commission reviewed the minutes of the June 15 and July 26, 2021 meetings. Dan Nolan noted a discrepancy in the minutes for the July 26, 2021 meeting, which impacted the draft minutes of the June 15, 2021 Executive Session minutes. Based on these comments, the Commission approved only the regular session minutes of the June 15, 2021 meeting, and deferred approval of the July 26, 2021 (and the June 15, 2021 Executive Session minutes) to the next meeting of the Commission. Based on a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission

VOTED to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2021 meeting.

Proposal for Seating Area at Clay Pit Pond (Cleo Theodoropolus Memorial)

The Commission discussed the permitting requirements for the new bench to be gifted to the Town. The Commission has determined the existing Order of Conditions remains in place, and can be modified to allow for the minor installation of an additional bench at Clay Pit Park. This is considered a "minor modification", and based on a Motion duly made and seconded, the Commission

VOTED to modify the Order of Conditions for the Intergenerational Walking Path to include an additional seating area above the bank of Clay Pit Pond.

Discussion: Clay Pit Pond Update:

Mary Trudeau reported on the recent installation of lighting and granite posts at Clay Pit Pond. She noted that the Veteran's group has expressed interest in the construction of a storage shed at Clay Pit Pond, and that she has advised that such a structure is very UNLIKELY to be approved.

Mary also reported that Chris Polatin has done treatment of the regrowth of the non native and invasive species along the bank of the Pond. She noted that some of the treatment, particularly on the school side of the Pond, is delayed due to ongoing work at the school site.

Discussion: Belmont Library Invasive Plant Species Control and Curbing Modifications

Peter Struzziero, director of the Belmont Library, reviewed recent curb work performed within jurisdictional areas associated with the Wellington Brook, at the Library parking lot. Peter noted, that in past years, bituminous curb was replaced annually, after damage from snow removal operations. This year, the DPW proposed the replacement with vertical granite curb, as a means of better protecting the edge of the parking area. Mr. Struzziero noted that he assumed that the DPW had pursued all necessary permits, prior to the installation, and he apologized to the Commission for this assumption. He noted that the parking lot was exactly the same size, and that the granite edging was set in the footprint of the former bituminous curb.

Mr. Struzziero also reviewed his desire to control and manage the non native and invasive vegetation along the rear of the parking lot and the Bank of the Wellington Brook. The Commission advised him to obtain proposals for the treatment, and to include the selected proposal in the submission of a permit application to the Commission.

Public Meeting: 25 Shady Brook Lane – Request for Determination of Applicability

Greg White, owner of the property at Shady Brook Lane, presented a proposal for stabilization; path improvements; and planting of native vegetation along (and above) the Bank of a small pond on his property. The pond is well under the thresholds established for a defined Pond, and is considered a Bordering Vegetated Wetland under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

Mr. White requested permission to replace failing timber supports along the edge of the waterbody, and permission to expand the existing foot path to allow access to the rear of the pond. Path improvements consist of blue stone slabs, laid within the berm surrounding the water body. The Commission discussed the proposed improvements and agreed that stabilization of the pond was appropriate.

Mary Trudeau noted that she had not viewed the site, and requested a pre construction meeting with the contractor, to discuss the path improvements. Based on this request, the Commission

VOTED to issue a negative (2) Determination of Applicability, including the standard conditions plus a special request for a pre construction review, by the agent, with the site contractor.

The vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

Continued Public Hearing: 129 Leonard Street: Notice of Intent application (106-148)

Kyle Cormier, represented the homeowners and applicants Alex Piotrowski and Iryna Piotrowska, in their Notice of Intent application for the construction of a detached garage, to be located within the buffer zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Kyle noted that in response to the Commission's comments made at the last meeting, the plans have been modified. He noted that the proposed driveway, as well as a significant portion of the existing paved surfaces (located within close proximity to the Wellington Brook) will be constructed/reconstructed as permeable

paved surfaces. This change in permeability has been extended to the patio area located above the Brook.

Kyle noted that the elevation of the slab for the garage has been added to the site plan, as well as the addition of a detail showing the overflow valve on the downspouts leading to the infiltration chamber. He noted that the scale of the plan had been reviewed, and was now accurate on the site plan in front of the Commission. Kyle summarized the improvements by noting that the revised site plan adds only 483 square feet of impervious surface, a reduction from the earlier proposal to the Commission.

Based on a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission

VOTED to issue an Order of Conditions, with the standard conditions, and to allow the Order to be issued with a single signature.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Continued Public Hearing for Notice of Intent filing: 595 Concord Avenue (106-149)

Al Gala represented the homeowners, Paul McDonald and Marcia Velencia, in the continued public review of the Notice of Intent filing to demolish the existing single family home and subsequently reconstruct a new wood frame home; sports court; pool; and associated landscaping. The project had been heard at the July 26, 2021 public meeting of the Commission, but had been continued to allow for the issuance of a DEP File number. Mr. Gala noted that a file number had been issued for the project, allowing the Commission to close the public hearing process.

Flavio Sutti, and abutter to the project, spoke favorably about the work included in the filing.

Based on a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission

VOTED issue an Order of Conditions, with the standard conditions, for the work proposed in the DEP File Number 106-0149 for 595 Concord Avenue. The Commission authorized the Order to be issued with a single signature.

The motion passed unanimously.

Harvard Running Club Event on October 9, 2021

Ilia Gavish presented a proposal from the Harvard Running Club to stage a XCcountry running event at Rock Meadow, on October 9, 2021. The race will offer an 8K and a 6K course, and races will begin at 12 pm and 1 pm, respectively. The Club will rent port o lets for the event, and carries event insurance. The Commission recommended that the Running Club email the Belmont Police Department prior to the event, to alert them to increased parking requirements on the race day. Based on a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission. The Commission noted that the Club will be responsible for trash removal to an off site disposal area, and the removal of any signage posted for the event.

VOTED to allow the use of Rock Meadow on October 9, 2021 for the Harvard Running Clubs cross country running event.

The Commission, by roll call vote, voted to enter Executive Session at approximately 9 pm.

The Commission returned to Regular Session at approximately 9:30 pm

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission

VOTED to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:30 pm